

Please add the following new claims to the application.

P3
16(New). The method according to claim 13, wherein the astaxanthin is derived from a natural source.

17(New). The method according to claim 16, wherein the natural source is a culture of the algae *Haematococcus sp.*

18(New). A medicament for suppression of excessive Th1 cell mediated immune responses and stimulation of Th2 cell mediated immune responses in a patient during ongoing infection and/or inflammation in said patient which comprises an effective amount of at least one type of xanthophyll for suppression of excessive Th1 cell mediated immune responses and stimulation of Th2 cell mediated immune responses in said patient.

19(New). A medicament according to claim 18, wherein the excessive Th1 cell mediated immune responses are caused by at least one disease from the group of autoimmune diseases and chronic viral and intracellular bacterial infections.

20(New). A medicament according to claim 18, wherein the disease is Psoriasis vulgaris, Multiple sclerosis (MS), Reumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, Tubercolosis (TB), Actue graft-versus-host disease (transplant rejection), or HIV virus infection.

21(New). A medicament according to claim 18, wherein the type of xanthophyll is astaxanthin.

22(New). A medicament according to claim 19, wherein the astaxanthin is in a form esterified with fatty acids.

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Contd*

23(New). A medicament according to claim 21, wherein the astaxanthin is derived from a natural source.

24(New). A medicament according to claim 23, wherein the natural source is a culture of the algae *Haematococcus sp.*

25(New). A medicament according to claim 16, wherein the medicament is an oral preparation.